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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. As a result of shortages of electric power for East German heavy industry, the Buna Werke produced about 10,000-12,000 metric tons less carbide in June 1953 than planned. According to an order from the responsible East German offices, all exports of organic solvents and chemicals produced up to the present by the Buna-Werke are to be halted. Only in special cases may contracts which have already been concluded be partially filled. In such cases special approval is necessary.
2. In July 1953, the Leuna-Werke produced for the first time about 10,000 metric tons of a synthetic gasoline with an octane rating of 81. The gasoline previously produced by Leuna had an octane rating of only 62. In May and June 1953, Leuna received for the first time deliveries of gasoline with an octane rating of 88. The new 82-octane gasoline from Leuna is primarily for export. Preliminary negotiations for the export of this gasoline have already taken place with an unidentified Dutch group.
3. The sulphuric acid installation for production on a gypsum base at Solfen will not be ready to begin operation in October 1953 as planned. Because of the serious shortage of raw materials with a sulphur content, the sale and export of lump sulphur has been forbidden. Although Bulgaria and Rumania are in a position to deliver to East Germany about 10,000 metric tons of sulphuric acid, it is probable that they will supply only about 2,500 metric tons. Ten thousand metric tons of sulphuric acid would cover East Germany's most pressing needs for the third quarter of 1953. The reason why sulphuric acid is in short supply in East Germany is the shortage of tank cars and the unusually long time it takes for tank cars to circulate (Wagen-Umlaufzeit.) The main supplier for East Germany at present is the sulphuric acid factory in Braila. The administrations of the SAG's and the ministerial offices charged with the direction of people's-owned plants are currently vying for those amounts of sulphuric acid which are available. The general director for the administration of the SAG's has once again demanded 14,000 metric tons of sulphuric acid for his factories, ignoring the critical supply situation of East German plants. The State Planning Commission is to decide which of the two consumers is to receive the allocation; it is believed that for the first time the SAG's will have to retract their demands.

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